

REMARKS

Upon entry of the amendments, claims 12, 14-15, 28-32, and 39-41 will be pending. The rejections of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first and second paragraphs, have been withdrawn. Applicant addresses the new grounds of objection and rejection, and requests allowance of the claims in view of the remarks below.

Claim Objections

Claim 16 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. To expedite prosecution, the limitations of claim 16 have been incorporated in independent claim 12. Claim 16 has been canceled, rendering this objection moot.

Claims 28 and 29 are objected to for informalities. Appropriate correction has been made, rendering this objection moot.

Furthermore, the specification is objected to as allegedly incorporating essential material. Applicant submits that the specification does not incorporate by reference any essential material in view of the amended claims, and respectfully requests that this objection be withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph

Claim 28 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite for reciting the amino acid sequence of Accession No. CAB65055, CAC40660 and NP_002212. Applicant submits that amended claim 28 is definite, and respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph

Claims 12, 14-15, 28-32 and 39-41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, but states that the specification is enabling for:

A method for identifying an agent that inhibits T lymphocyte development comprising identifying an agent that inhibits IP3KB kinase activity or gene/polypeptide expression and testing the agent for the ability to inhibit CD4+CD8+ T cell double positive T cell development into CD4+ or CD8+ T cells. (Office Action, page 3).

Applicant submits that amended claim 12 is enabled, and respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

Conclusion

In summary, the claims have been amended to obviate the objections and rejections, and Applicant requests that claims 12, 14-15, 28-32 and 39-41 be passed to issue. If a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned attorney at (858) 812-1539.

If the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 50-1885** referencing docket No. P1097US10.

Respectfully submitted,

/Emily Tongco Wu, Reg. No. 46,473/

Emily Tongco Wu, Ph.D.
Reg. No. 46,473

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Customer No.: 29490
Tel: (858) 812-1539
Fax: (858) 812-1909